

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 196033

61

ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 FAA-00 L-03

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CAB - C.COLDREN

ARA/CEN - G.GOWEN

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P R 070018Z AUG 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL BELIZE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, BH, UK

SUBJECT: CIVAIR - BELIZE AIRWAYS LIMITED (BAL)

REF: (A) STATE 180434; (B) BELIZE 385 (NOTAL); BELIZE 323

1. BRITISH EMBASSY/WASHINGTON, IN RESPONSE TO US NOTE PER REFTEL (A), SUGGESTED THAT CONSULTATIONS RE BAL DESIGNATION BE HELD IN WASHINGTON AT OUR CONVENIENCE. DEPT HAS SCHEDULED DISCUSSIONS FOR AUGUST 13. PARTICIPANTS ARE TO INCLUDE GOVERNMENT AS WELL AS AIRLINE REPS.

2. DEPT PROPOSES TO POINT OUT THAT IN VIEW OF AVAILABLE INFORMATION, THERE IS CONCERN THAT BAL MAY NOT BE SUBSTANTIALLY OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY EITHER BRITISH OR BELIZIAN INTERESTS. IF AIRLINE IS DESIGNATED BY HMG,
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PAGE 02 STATE 196033

OWNERSHIP AND CONTROL QUESTION WOULD BE SUBJECT TO FULL

PUBLIC EXAMINATION, AND COULD RESULT IN EMBARRASSMENT TO UK AND BELIZE AUTHORITIES. IT IS FURTHER PROPOSED TO REQUEST THE BRITISH AUTHORITIES TO REASSESS THEIR PLANNED DESIGNATION IN LIGHT OF OUR CONCERNS. HOWEVER, IF BRITISH SO WISH, THEY MAY COMPLETE DESIGNATION PROCEEDINGS, AND BAL WOULD THEN BE ABLE TO SUBMIT ITS PERMIT APPLICATION TO CAB.

3. TO COMPLETE OUR PREPARATION FOR AUGUST 13 TALKS, IT WOULD BE APPRECIATED IF EMBASSY WOULD SUBMIT ANY ADDITIONAL

INFORMATION RE BAL'S OWNERSHIP AND CONTROL, IF AVAILABLE, ASAP. WE WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE FURTHER INFORMATION CONCERNING BARRY BOWEN, LISTED AS OWNING 30 PERCENT OF BAL'S STOCK. IT WOULD BE PARTICULARLY USEFUL TO KNOW IF MONEY INVESTED IS HIS AND NOT FROM OUTSIDE SOURCES. SIMILAR INFORMATION ON OTHERS FROM BELIZE OWNING THE SMALLER PERCENTAGES MAKING UP THE 51 PERCENT TOTAL WOULD ALSO BE APPRECIATED IN ORDER SUPPLEMENT PREVIOUSLY SUPPLIED INFORMATION.

4. IN ADDITION TO RESPONSE FROM BELIZE, APPROPRIATE COMMENTS ARE ALSO REQUESTED FROM TEGUCIGALPA AND SAN SALVADOR. HABIB

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CIVIL AVIATION, ESTABLISHMENT OF OFFICES, LICENSES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE196033
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: AJRIMAS:VLV
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760304-0824
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760876/aaaacobo.tel
Line Count: 84
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 180434, 76 BELIZE 385, 76 BELIZE 323
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19 MAY 2004 by buchanta0>; APPROVED <08 SEP 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CIVAIR - BELIZE AIRWAYS LIMITED (BAL)
TAGS: EAIR, BH, UK, US, BAL
To: BELIZE TEGUCIGALPA SAN SALVADOR
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006